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SOURCE Het Dagblad. (Information requested.)CONDITIONS IN NEWLY OCCUPIED AREA OF EAST JAVA

Peace and order are slowly returning in the Madoen sector. Many have returned to work. However, many murders are still committed by roving gangs. The Army is doing everything in its power to protect the population as much as possible. Besides numerous Chinese requiring help, old people and children are found in deserted or plundered desas, without means of subsistence.

The supply of textiles destined for distribution was burned during an attack in Blitar. The stream of people from border areas to the city, seeking safety, is increasing daily. Regulated distribution of rice is easing the food situation noticeably. At present, a chicken, formerly 300 ORI, can be bought on the market for one florin and sugar, formerly 50 ORI, can be bought for 0.25 florin per kg. The clothing situation is still serious. The number of persons looking for work is decreasing. Approximately 300 persons were registered by the employment office, 30 percent of which could be placed. Primary and secondary schools will be reopened shortly.

In Kediri, the Department of Social Affairs set up a cleaning service which employs approximately 100 unskilled workers. This service was later transferred to waterways officials.

As a result of destroyed bridges, Toeloengagoeng city, west of Blitar, is still difficult to reach and has had to be supplied by air several times. Land around the city looks good, but within the city numerous buildings have been destroyed. All officials have been evacuated to Trenggalek. Food supplies were taken by the TNI. In general, the population is friendly and helpful.

The Chinese Situation

Approximately 700 male Chinese were interned in a village outside of the city of Toeloengagoeng. Near Kertosono an undetermined number of Chinese were murdered, and their homes were burned and plundered. As the Dutch troops approached, the Chinese inhabitants of Ngloojoe, Ngandjoek,

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Waroedjajeng and surrounding places, totaling 700 or 800 persons, were driven together into one area, which was then set on fire from the rear. According to eyewitnesses, sharpshooters were deployed to shoot those attempting escape. Only 67 of these people could be located on 17 January. Several hundred probably died a gruesome death.

Evacuation

Malang is the center of temporary care for evacuees at present. Many persons enter the city daily via Kendalpajak and Kebonagoeng. These people either wish to return to their former residences in Federal territory (Indonesians) or are escaping (Chinese). All evacuees receive injections against cholera and typhus. The evacuees are regularly sent on to points of their choosing. Transit stations have also been set up in Sidcardjo and Medjokerto.

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